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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2004

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

Bloodiest day in Iraq - Aksam
Bloodiest day for US troops in Iraq: 16 killed - Hurriyet
US fury turns Fallujah into a ghost town - Sabah
Fallujah cannot resist - Milliyet
Fallujah weeps - Turkiye
Arafat: dead or alive? - Milliyet
Arafat: Dies, lives, in deep coma - Sabah
Arafat to be Buried in Ramallah - Milliyet

OPINION MAKERS

Fallujah is occupied again - Cumhuriyet
Heavy street fighting in Fallujah - Zaman
Americans still bloodthirsty - Yeni Safak
100,000 civilians under fire in Fallujah - Yeni Safak
FM Gul urges Powell to protect civilians in Fallujah - Zaman
Iraqi Sunnis threaten to boycott upcoming elections - Zaman
Resistance takes Ramadi - Radikal
Powell: Bush's 'aggressive' policies won't change - Zaman
Palestine's \$3-5 billion evaporates with 'Abu Ammar' -
Radikal
Fundamentalists warn Dutch to end attacks on Muslims -
Cumhuriyet
Iran may bid farewell to nuclear program - Yeni Safak
Al-Baradei wants Israel to be in nuclear non-proliferation
program - Cumhuriyet

BRIEFING

Secretary Powell calls FM Gul on Fallujah assault: US

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Secretary of State Powell called FM Gul to brief Ankara on

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the impending US-led assault on Fallujah, "Radikal" reports.
Gul urged Powell to minimize civilian casualties, and to
establish order to ensure that upcoming Iraqi elections can
be held throughout the country. Gul also asked Powell to
enhance the safety of Turkish truck drivers and to remove
the terrorist presence in northern Iraq. Papers report
heavy street fighting in Fallujah overnight, with 16 US
soldiers killed. Papers claim that 40 members of the
resistance and 15 civilians were also killed in the
fighting. Several reports criticized the timing of the
operation, which fell on the holiest night of the year for
Muslims.

FM Gul Sees 'Secret Aims' in Broader Middle East Initiative:
Appearing before the Parliament's Budget Committee
yesterday, FM Gul said that the Broader Middle East is a
'sensitive issue' for Turkey. The FM added that there could
be 'secret plans or secret ambitions' in the Broader Middle
East Initiative. It is important for Turkey to participate
in the project, he said, so that many mistakes can be
prevented. On a separate issue, FM Gul said that Turkey
would turn away from its EU aspirations if there was not a
'satisfactory result' at the EU Summit on December 17.

Greek Press: US plane lands in north Cyprus: Turkish
businessman Ali Sen flew on November 2 from the island of
Rhodes to Ercan Airport in north Cyprus on a private, US-
registered jet. Greek Cypriot air control at Larnaka
Airport in the south misidentified the aircraft as a US
jetfighter, and warned Athens that the US was preparing to
recognize the 'TRNC,' "Hurriyet" claims. Greek Cypriot
intelligence warned the government before Nicosia presented
a note of protest to Washington that the aircraft was a

private US plane leased by a Polish firm being used by a Turkish businessman. However, the Greek press reported that a US aircraft had landed at Ercan Airport. Turkish businessman Ali Sen paid courtesy calls on outgoing Turkish Cypriot `PM' Talat and `FM' Serdar Denktas. "Cumhuriyet" notes that the Greek daily "Etnos" repeated the claim that the US is preparing to establish a military base in north Cyprus.

Chirac prefers `privileged EU partnership' for Turkey: French President Jacques Chirac is lobbying for a `privileged partnership' for Turkey if EU accession talks with Ankara fail. According to a report in yesterday's "Financial Times," Chirac wants to add such a related provision to the EU summit final declaration to be issued on December 17.

Mass grave found in southeast Turkey: The remains of 11 villagers have been found in a mass grave in the Kulp township of Diyarbakir, the largest city in Turkey's mainly Kurdish southeast. The victims have been missing since 1993, when their relatives applied to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), claiming there had been no trace of the villagers since they were detained by the Turkish military. The ECHR found in favor of the victims' families, and ordered Turkey to pay TL1 trillion to the relatives. The remains will be sent to Ankara for forensic testing.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Fallujah Offensive

"Iraq is in a civil war"
Mehmet Barlas wrote in the mass appeal "Sabah" (11/10): "Fallujah is one resistance point, but not the only one. There are many areas of resistance, but the US intends to crush the resistance movement in its current operation. But the initial signs point in another direction. After the Fallujah operation, the resistance might become even bigger and spread to other Iraqi cities. Iraq is not only the scene of the American occupation, but also a possible stage for civil war. . Even if the Fallujah resistance is put to an end, uncertainty will remain. Military experts are reminding us about what happened in Vietnam, for instance. After the `Tet Offensive' in 1968, the US army managed to gain full control over the city of Hue. But in the end, it didn't prevent the US from failure in Vietnam by 1975. The Fallujah crisis will not be finished easily."

"War After War"
Sami Kohen opined in the mass appeal "Milliyet" (11/10): "The US had no choice but to open a second front on the land it occupied, a year and a half after the war had supposedly finished. Located in the center of the country, Fallujah and the Sunni Triangle had become the symbol and the center of the resistance. In this area, rebels rather than coalition forces are in control. While such a power vacuum exists, is it possible for elections to take place in January as planned, and for the administration to be transferred to the new government, and reconstruction of Iraq to begin within the framework of a new constitution? At this stage, the US could have either started this new military operation to clear the rebels from the area and establish stability, or simply accepted defeat and retreated. Right at the beginning of his second term, President Bush decided in favor of the former. .Now the issue is whether the US can be successful in eliminating the rebels. Can peace and security be re-established in Fallujah and the Sunni Triangle? Will Iraq hold elections in peace and be able to start the reconstruction process as a unified country?"
EDELMAN